

## What You Should Know About Domestic Violence

- \* You are not responsible for the violence against you.
- \* It is NOT your fault, even if you were drinking or using drugs.
- \* You do not deserve to be abused.
- \* You have a right to be safe.
- \* You did not seek a relationship with someone who is abusive.
- \* There are legal actions you can take to help protect yourself.
- \* You have a right to be believed by service providers.
- \* You are the expert about your own life and have the right to choose your own actions to survive.
- \* You have the right to choose whether or not to leave your home and your relationship.
- \* You deserve to receive culturally appropriate assistance based on your race, class, sexual orientation, ability, age, religion, and background.

For help, call the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women during business hours at **(651) 646-6177** or our after hours crisis line at **(651) 646-0994**. Out of the Metro area? Call the Minnesota Domestic Violence Crisis Line toll-free at **866-223-1111**.